

Write a Spring Haiku

Informational Handout

The first day of spring is a perfect time to write a Haiku. Spring in itself creates a certain mood. Read about Haikus and then write one. They are often illustrated.

What is a Haiku? A Haiku is a form of poetry that started in Japan. A Haiku has 3 lines. The first line has 5 syllables, the second line has 7 syllables, and the third line has 5 syllables, for a total of 17 syllables.

A Haiku:

Captures a moment of nature

Uses specific and carefully chosen words

Creates a mood

Doesn't rhyme



Read the examples below by

Matsuo Bashō,
one of the most famous Haiku poets of all time, and G. Lipson.

An old silent pond (5)
A frog jumps into the pond (7)
Splash, silence again. (5)
Basho

In the darkest woods (5)
A weeping willow tree cries (7)
Who made such sadness? (5)
G. Lipson

Student Worksheet

Now it's time to write your own Haiku. Follow the list of tips below.

1. Think of a spring scene that gives you special memories or feelings.
2. Really picture this scenic moment in your mind and then write down words and phrases that describe it. **Remember a Haiku is a picture painted with words.**

3. Remember a Haiku is 3 lines, line one has 5 syllables, line two has 7 syllables, and line three has 5 syllables. Create a powerful realistic visual with just 17 syllables. Refer to the *Informational Handout* if you need help.

(5)

(7)

(5)

Now write or type it on a plain piece of paper and include an illustration.